



LTC Thomas M. Nelson was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Infantry upon his graduation from Officer Candidate School in 1995 (Distinguished Military Graduate). His military education includes the Infantry Officer Basic Course (Distinguished Leadership Graduate), Captains Career Course (Distinguished Leadership Graduate), and the Command and General Staff College. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management, from Saint Leo University and a Master's Degree in Organizational Psychology and Leadership from Columbia University, New York.

His command experience includes Commander, C Company, 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii; Commander, C Company, 5th Ranger Training Battalion and Commander, HHC, 5th Ranger Battalion, Dahlonga, Georgia.

Assignments as a Soldier and Noncommissioned Officer from 1985 to 1995 include service in Minnesota, Fort Lewis, Washington, Camp Hovey, Korea, and Fort Stewart, Georgia.

Assignments as an officer include: Rifle Platoon Leader and Battalion Scout Platoon Leader, 1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, Fort Lewis, Washington; Assistant Operations Officer, 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii; Operations Officer, 6th Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, Fort Hood, Texas; Executive Officer, 6th Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment forward deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, Forward Operating Base (FOB) Bostick, Afghanistan. Brigade Operations Officer, 3rd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, Fort Knox, Kentucky and Professor of Military Science, Saint John's University, Minnesota.

LTC Nelson's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star, Air Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (with four Oak Leaf Clusters), Army Commendation Medal (with two Oak Leaf Clusters), Army Achievement Medal (with one Silver and two Oak Leaf Clusters), Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal (second award), Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Ribbon, Korea Defense Service Medal, NCO Professional Development Ribbon (second award), Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Ribbon (third award), and NATO Medal. He has attended the Army Jumpmaster Course and Scout Leaders Course. Additionally he has earned the Combat Infantryman Badge, Expert Infantryman Badge, Pathfinder Badge, Parachutist Badge, Jumpmaster Course, and the Ranger Tab.